

July 3/91
31

1. A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:
an attachment plate for engaging the inflatable curtain, the attachment plate defining an opening; and
5 a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing in rotatable communication with the attachment plate adjacent the opening, the bushing configured to receive a fastener.
2. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the bushing comprises a diameter smaller than the opening of the attachment plate.
- 10 3. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing is deformable to facilitate positioning of the bushing within the opening.
4. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a protrusion positioned at the inner surface to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.
- 15 5. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing further comprises a flange extending radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing within the opening in the attachment plate.

6. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a first piece rotatably engaged to a second piece.

7. The mounting bracket of claim 6, wherein the first piece is attached to the attachment plate.

5 8. The mounting bracket of claim 6, wherein the second piece is attached to a fastener.

10 9. The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a snap having a male member and a female member.

10 10. The mounting bracket of claim 9, wherein the female member rotatably engages the attachment plate at the opening.

11. The mounting bracket of claim 9, wherein the male member comprises a protrusion positioned to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

15 12. The mounting bracket of claim 1, further comprising a pair of attachment plates, each plate configured to engage a respective opposing surface of an inflatable curtain.

13. The mounting bracket of claim 12, wherein each plate defines an opening, the opening of each plate being substantially aligned with each other to permit the positioning of a fastener within each opening.

14. The mounting bracket of claim 12, wherein the bushing is positioned within at least one attachment plate.
15. The mounting bracket of claim 12, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.
16. The mounting bracket of claim 15, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.
17. The mounting bracket of claim 15, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving notch configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.
18. The mounting bracket of claim 12, wherein the attachment plates each comprise a first edge, the first edge of each attachment plate being connected to each other.
19. The mounting bracket of claim 18, wherein the first edge of each attachment plate is integral with each other.
20. The mounting bracket of claim 1, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

21. The mounting bracket of claim 20, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

*112 insertion in bracket
features of fastener claimed*

DOCKET NO. 103280

5

22. A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:
a pair of attachment plates for engaging the inflatable curtain, each plate
configured to engage a respective opposing surface of an inflatable curtain, at
least one plate defining an opening, to permit the positioning of a fastener within
the opening; and

10

a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing in
rotatable communication with at least one attachment plate adjacent the bushing
configured to receive a fastener, the bushing comprising a flange extending
radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing
within the opening in the attachment plate.

which is

23. The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the outer surface of the
bushing comprises a diameter smaller than the opening of the attachment plate.

15

24. The mounting bracket of claim 23, wherein the bushing is deformable to
facilitate positioning of the bushing within the opening.

25. The mounting bracket of claim 24, wherein the bushing comprises a
protrusion positioned at the inner surface to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the
bushing.

26. The mounting bracket of claim 25, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

5 27. The mounting bracket of claim 26, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

28. The mounting bracket of claim 26, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a notch configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

10 29. The mounting bracket of claim 27, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

36 30. The mounting bracket of claim 29, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

15 31. The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the bushing comprises a first piece rotatably engaged to a second piece.

32. The mounting bracket of claim 31, wherein the first piece is attached to the attachment plate.

18/18
5
33. The mounting bracket of claim 32, further comprising a fastener attached to the second piece.

34. The mounting bracket of claim 33, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

35. The mounting bracket of claim 34, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

36. The mounting bracket of claim 33, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

37. The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the bushing comprises a snap having a male member and a female member.

38. The mounting bracket of claim 37, wherein the female member rotatably engages the attachment plate at the opening.

15 39. The mounting bracket of claim 38, wherein the male member comprises a protrusion positioned to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

112

40. The mounting bracket of claim 39, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

5 41. The mounting bracket of claim 40, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

10 42. The mounting bracket of claim 41, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

43. The mounting bracket of claim 42, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

15 44. The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the attachment plates each comprise a first edge, the first edge of each attachment plate being connected to each other.

45. The mounting bracket of claim 44, wherein the first edge of each attachment plate is integral with each other.

5

10

15

46. A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:

 a first and second attachment plate, each configured to engage a respective opposing surface of an inflatable curtain, each plate further defining an opening, the opening of each plate being substantially aligned with each other to permit the positioning of a fastener within each opening, the pair of attachment plates being attached to each other at a first edge of each attachment plate; and

 a deformable bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the outer surface of the bushing comprising a diameter smaller than the opening of the attachment plate, the bushing being in rotatable communication with the attachment plate adjacent the opening;

 a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate; and

 a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

add 957

47. An airbag device, comprising:

- an inflatable curtain having a first edge and opposing surfaces;
- a first and second attachment plate configured to engage a respective opposing surface of the inflatable curtain, at least one attachment plate defining an opening to facilitate receiving a fastener; and
- a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing being positioned within the opening and in rotatable communication with at least one attachment plate, the bushing comprising a flange extending radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing within the opening in the attachment plate.